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SANITARY LEGISLATION.

STATE LAWS AND REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO PUBLIC HEALTH.

PORTO RICO.

Trachoma—Prevention and Suppression of. (Proclamation Aug. 28, 1914.)

The following rules and regulations, in accordance with the provisions of act No. 81, approved March 14, 1912,¹ having been approved by the executive council on August 18, 1914, are hereby promulgated for the information and guidance of all concerned:

ARTICLE 1. The provisions of this regulation shall be exclusively applied to the proven or suspicious cases of trachoma, it being indispensable that the diagnosis of the disease be made by a competent physician in the matter.

ART. 2. So far as this regulation is concerned, trachoma is understood to be all contagious affections of the orbital mucous membrane of a chronic evolution and characterized by localized nodular lesions in the mucosa of the eye lids and of the conjunctival sac.

ART. 3. The service of sanitation shall organize the sanitary inspection of the schools, private colleges, asylums for children, factories, and other similar establishments, in order to investigate the existence and extension of trachoma, and as to proven cases shall adopt such measures as may be necessary.

ART. 4. Every child upon enrollment in the public and private schools and asylums shall present a certificate issued by a physician certifying as to his indemnity respecting trachoma, and without this requirement shall not be admitted in any of said establishments.

The director of sanitation shall order that the school population be examined in the month of January and during the second fortnight of April.

ART. 5. It is the duty of the principal, graded, or rural teacher of the public schools and the director of private colleges and asylums, as well as the physicians authorized to practice, to report any case of trachoma which they know of or attend.

ART. 6. The children affected with acute conjunctivitis or suspicious of trachoma shall be eliminated from the schools or private colleges until the acute process has disappeared.

In the chronic period they may be readmitted, provided they are separated in their respective classrooms, in such a way as to have no contact with the other pupils.

The service of sanitation shall determine as to the time in which these pupils may be readmitted to their classes.

ART. 7. Every infraction of any of the provisions of this regulation shall be punished in accordance with the provisions of section 33 of "An act to reorganize the service of sanitation," approved March 14, 1912, and in defect of this shall be liable to punishment as under the Civil Code.

¹ Public Health Reports, Aug. 15, 1913, p. 1715.